(19) **JAPANESE PATENT OFFICE**

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11) Publication number: **10126738 A**

(43) Date of publication of application: **15.05.98**

(51) Int. Cl	**H04N 5/91**	
	G06F 12/00	
	H04N 5/232	
	H04N 5/765	
	H04N 5/781	

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(54) **ELECTRONIC CAMERA**

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To find out immediately a desired image file by classifying an image file according to an image pickup condition or an image pickup environment and storing the file onto a recording medium according to the classification.

SOLUTION: In the case of image pickup through the selection of day/hour classification mode with a mode changeover button, an optical image is A/D- converted via an image pickup element 24 and image processing such as white balance adjustment, contour compensation, gamma correction or the like is conducted in an image processing section 26 to generate an image file. The file is transferred to a data access section 28 via a frame memory 27 and stored in an idle area on a magneto-optical recording medium 29. On the other hand, a control section 32 generates a directory for each date at the start point of time of image pickup. Similarly, image files are automatically classified corresponding to each mode such a object distance, light source color temperature, speed light image pickup. Thus, it is not required to arrange picked-up image files on each occasion and since the files are classified for each directory, the image files are easily retrieved.

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